

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE  
MINUTES  
Ad Hoc Committee on Opioids**

Friday, January 5, 2007

Department of Health Professions

Richmond, Virginia

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee convened at 9:15 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Malcolm L. Cothran, Jr., MD, Chair  
Pamela Bailey, PA-C  
John Barsanti, MD  
Patrick Clougherty, MD  
Stephen Long, MD  
Ralph Orr  
Lynn Poole, LNP  
Scotti Russell  
Wayne Van Zee, MD

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director  
Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director of Licensing  
Jennifer Deschenes, Deputy Executive Director of Discipline  
Amy Marschean, Assistant Attorney General  
Emily Wingfield, Chief Deputy Director, DHP  
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst, DHP  
Colanthia Morton Opher, Recording Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** W. Scott Johnson, HDJN  
David Brown, HDJN  
Tammie Smith, RTD  
Tyler Cox, HDJN  
Tim Musselman, PharmD, Virginia Pharmacists Association  
Michele Satterlund, VCNP  
Mary Duggan, VCNP  
Jeff Buthe, MSV

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES:**

Dr. Cothran called the meeting to order. A roll call was conducted and the Emergency Evacuation Instructions were given. Introductions from the panel members, board staff and guests were made.

Dr. Long moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

There was no public comment.

Ms. Yeatts advised the panel that their charge was to develop the regulatory language relating to the management of pain with opioids. Ms. Yeatts then informed the members of the regulatory process.

Dr. Long gave an informative history of the origin of the Guidelines for the Use of Opioids in the Management of Chronic, Noncancer Pain currently referred to by the Board of Medicine. Dr. Harp then guided the committee through the review of several documents including the currently adopted Model Policy for the Use of Controlled Substances for the Treatment of Pain published by the Federation of State Medical Boards and the Drug Enforcement Administration Rule 21 CFR 1306 on Dispensing Controlled Substances for the Treatment of Pain, Published September 2006 in the Federal Register. The committee discussed several issues extensively as it relates to this topic including, but not limited to, the reason for the need for regulations, statistics given regarding the increase in nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers, the lack of consensus among physicians as to all the circumstances that warrant the use of opioids to treat pain, and what may be fueling the increase in prescription drug abuse. Throughout the review, the members made comments and recommendations for consideration in the draft language. Dr. Harp noted that the issuance of a prescription for a legitimate medical purpose by a registered physician acting within the usual course of professional practice can not be emphasized enough. Ralph Orr, manager of the Prescription Monitoring Program also gave a brief historical background on the initiation of the PMP and an up-to-date status on the increasing success of the program.

The committee members agreed that an additional meeting should be scheduled to develop draft language to be presented to the Board as soon as feasible.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

/s/  
Malcolm Cothran, MD  
Chair

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William L. Harp, M.D.  
Executive Director

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Colanthia Morton Opher  
Recording Secretary